

April 28, 1999

2557 '99 MAY -4 P1 58

Karen Colterjohn
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Golden, CO 80401

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Dept. of Health and Human Services
12420 Parklawn Dr., Rm 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

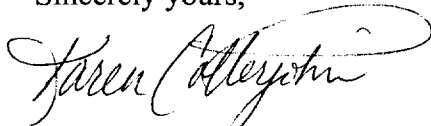
Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing in reference to Docket number 98P-0203/CP asking that you grant the forced molting petition. Forced molting is a cruel industry practice that must be stopped. When we are forced to examine what the laying hens endure during a forced molt, our obligation to protect them is clear:

- Hens are starved for 5-14 days straight.
- Water is withheld for up to three days.
- Hens are starved and forced to molt "until their combs turn blue" or they die.
- Some hens are given drugs to "shock" them into producing more eggs.
- Many hens die of shock during the forced molting period.
- The immune system of the birds is so severely stressed that many suffer from Salmonella enteritidis, and intestinal infection.

If there is anything else I can do to ensure this petition is granted, please let me know and I will gladly do it. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely yours,

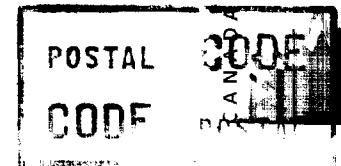


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98P-0203

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